Supply of LPG in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

†788.SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of LPG cylinders in several States for the last some time;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the rural and urban area-wise percentage of consumers of LPG in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh separately; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to ensure proper supply of LPG in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a), (b) and (d) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that at present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

OMCs have supplied 7885.1 Thousand Metric Tonnes (TMT) of domestic LPG in the country during the period April, 2008 to December, 2008 as against 7521.2 TMT of domestic LPG during the corresponding period of last year, showing a growth rate of 4.83%.

As on 19.02.2009, OMCs have reported a backlog of few days in LPG supplies in certain States in the country due to a combination of factors *viz.*, spurt in demand, strike by oil sector officers association, strike by bulk LPG transporters, strikes/bandhs/hartal by various parties in some States etc. Government has advised OMCs to liquidate the backlog in the States by operating the bottling plants on holidays and during extended hours. All the LPG distributors have also been advised to effect the deliveries on Sundays and holidays also. The backlog is expected to be cleared by the end of February, 2009.

(c) The rural and urban area-wise percentage of consumers of LPG in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh are as under:-

State	%age of LPG customers in urban areas	%age of LPG customers in rural areas
Madhya Pradesh	78	22
Chhattisgarh	72	28

Global and domestic price of petrol product

789. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.